



# OYO<sup>1</sup>: BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR

**“Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.” Alice in Wonderland**

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Entrepreneurship is the process of designing, launching, and running a new business ([Wikipedia](#)).  
Entrepreneurs

- develop valuable experience and skills, both technical and non-technical
- have the opportunity to significantly contribute to the local economy

The Pioneer Valley is developing a reputation for inclusive innovation, in part due to the significant talent pool from the colleges and universities.

**< 35+ HYPERLINKS BELOW TO ACCELERATE YOUR SEARCH FOR RESOURCES AND INFORMATION <sup>2</sup> >**

## UMass Resources for the Curious...

**Ventures @ CICS:** Program providing information, advice, and support to the CICS community. Appointments available with Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIRs) to provide advice on ideas.

**Berthiaume Institute:** Hack UMass, business and entrepreneurship courses, Isenberg fellows (MBAs) social events

**ACM:** “Idea Jams”, networking with technical talent

**American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME):** MIE Innovation Makerspace

**Maker Space:** Engineering and Computer Science (coming soon!)

**Hackathons:** HackUMass, Major League Hacking

**Courses:** Cross Campus Entrepreneurship Courses, Udemy, edX, Coursera

**Books & Articles:** Talking to Humans; The Startup Checklist; “Why the Lean Startup Changes Everything”; Disciplined Entrepreneurship

## UMass Resources to Advance your Idea...

**Ventures @ CICS:** Program providing information, advice, and support to the CICS community. Appointments available with Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIRs) to offer ongoing advice on ideas.

**Berthiaume Institute:** Innovation Challenge, new venture advising - Isenberg IALS Innovation Fellows Program can provide business plan support

**Funding:** Innovation Challenge; Maroon Venture Partners Fund (Early investment in UMass Amherst companies); President's Fund - Early investment in companies from the five campuses

**Technology Transfer Office:** “Envisioning Process” covering nuts-and-bolts of starting a company: IP advice, options and licenses for UMA patents, copyrights.

**Digital Media Lab:** Green room, sound rooms, AV equipment loans, 3D printing.

**Institute for Applied Life Sciences (IALS):** Company lease of co-laboratory space, use of 30 core research centers

## Other Useful Resources

**Valley Venture Mentors (VVM):** Mentorship program; monthly meetings

**Innovate413:** Multi-platform publication supporting the entrepreneurship scene in western Mass

**TechSpring:** Tech + healthcare innovation; monthly investor office hours

**National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (NSF I-Corps):** Programs and activities for researchers and engineers to extend focus beyond the laboratory


**Local Funding:** River Valley Investors, Launch 413, Alchemy Fund

**Kickstarter:** Crowd-funding platform for creative projects

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<sup>1</sup> On-your-own “OYO” resources help you begin to find answers to your questions now. <sup>2</sup> More ideas? Let us know.

For more information or other career-related questions, contact our **CICS Careers** team.

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